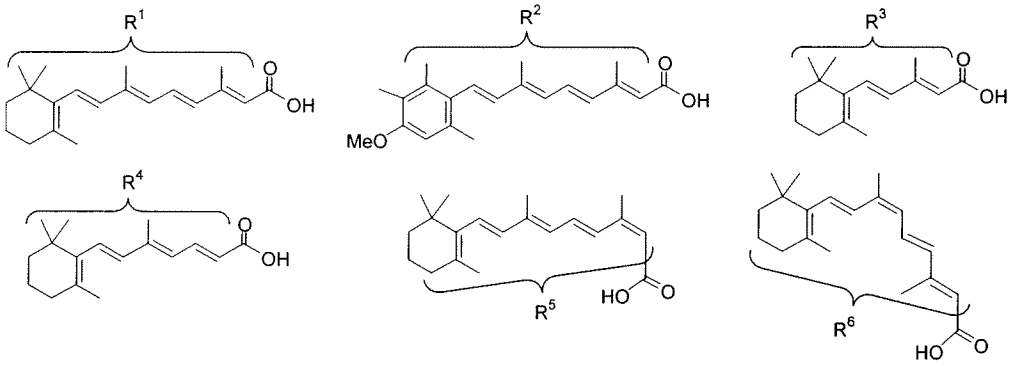
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

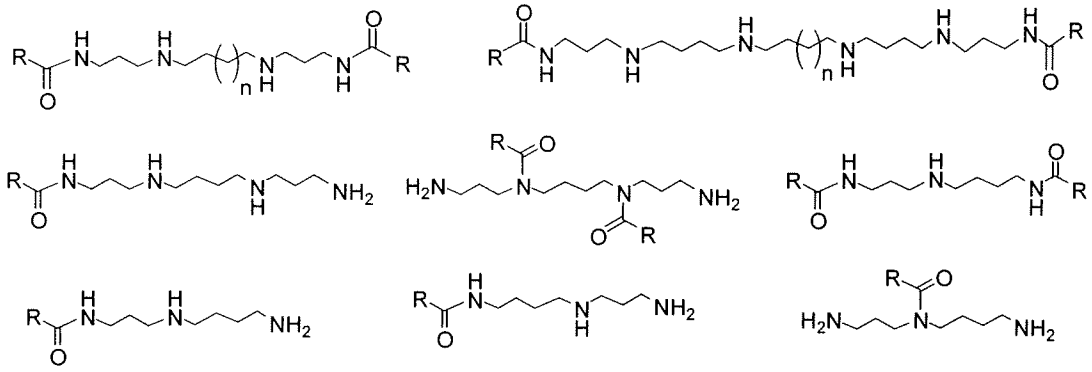
1. (Currently Amended): Conjugates of polyamines with acidic retinoids, having pharmaceutical properties, in which the R group of the acyl group(s) RCO is one of the retinoid residues R^1-R^6 ~~pointed out~~ set forth in the following ~~pharmaceutically important~~ acidic retinoids and polyene chain-shortened *all-trans*-retinoic acid analogues :



and said polyamines are:

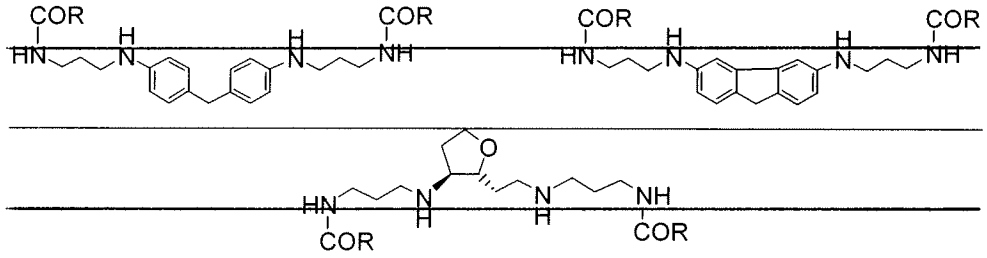
a) ~~Linear~~ linear tri-, tetra-and hexa-amines,

which conjugates have the following general formulae:

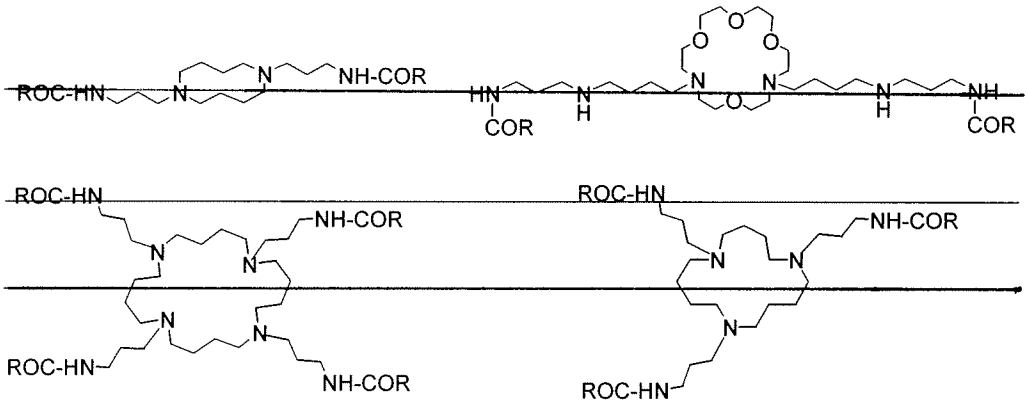


wherein n is 1 to 9

~~b) conformationally restricted polyamines, which conjugates have the following general formulae:~~

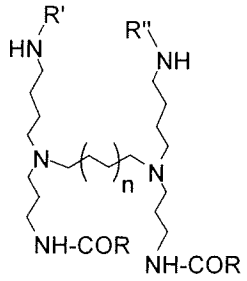


~~c) cyclic polyamines, which conjugates have the following general formulae :~~



d) branched (dimeric) polyamines,

which conjugates have the following general formula:



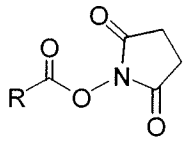
wherein

R' is COR or $(CH_2)_3NHCOR$ and R'' is COR or $(CH_2)_3NHCOR$

and n is one of the numbers 1, 2 [[and]] <u>or</u> 7.

2. (Currently amended): A method for the preparation of a compound according to claim 1 involving initially step a), followed by step b) or step c): ~~either the following two steps:~~

a) synthesis of compounds with the general formula



wherein R is one of the retinoid residues R^1-R^6 of claim 1, which involves esterification of acidic retinoids with HOSu in the presence of the coupling agent DCC and purification with flash column chromatography to obtain purified succinimidyl esters ;

b) direct selective acylation of the primary amino groups of polyamines with the purified succinimidyl esters ~~as above obtained compounds~~; or

c) ~~or the~~ acylation of the secondary amino groups of polyamines, protected at their primary amino functions with [[the]] a trifluoroacetyl or [[the]] a 9-fluorenylmethoxycarbonyl group, with the acidic retinoids ~~of claim 1~~ identified in Fig. 2 in the presence of the coupling agent PyBrOP, followed by deprotection.

3. (Currently Amended): A method according to claim 2, which method involves the direct selective acylation of the primary amino functions of polyamines or their corresponding hydrochloride or trifluoroacetate salts with the compounds of the step a) of claim 2, wherein the solvent is selected ~~between~~ from dichloromethane, chloroform and dimethylformamide, and the base, where necessary, is ~~selected between~~ triethylamine [[and]] or diisopropylethylamine ~~or any other tertiary amine or in general any other non-nucleophilic base~~.

4. (Currently Amended): A method according to claim 3 wherein the selective acylation of the primary amino functions of polyamines is ~~effected~~ carried out with any other activated carboxylic acid derivative known to acylate selectively primary amino functions in the presence of secondary ones.

5. (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 2 wherein the selective mono- or bis-acylation of primary amino functions of polyamines takes place indirectly and involves the following steps:

(i) protection of the secondary amino functions of polyamines, bearing the trityl protecting group at their primary amino functions, with the 9-fluorenylmethoxycarbonyl or the trifluoroacetyl group;

(ii) detritylation;

(iii) mono- or bis-acylation with the compounds of step a) of claim 2;

(iv) complete deprotection and purification, if necessary, by flash column chromatography.

6. (Currently Amended): A method according to claim 2 wherein the selective acylation of the secondary amino functions of polyamines involves the following steps:

(i) selective trifluoroacetylation of the primary amino functions of polyamines;

(ii) acylation of the secondary amino functions with the acidic retinoids ~~of claim 1~~ in the presence of the coupling agent PyBroP;

(iii) removal of the trifluoroacetyl groups by alkaline hydrolysis.

7. (Previously Presented): A pharmaceutical preparation or product containing the compounds claimed in claim 1 for therapeutical applications in humans.